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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM  
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ASSASSINATION.  
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**CLASSIFIED  
ATTACHMENT**

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED

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AMERICAN EMBASSY

MEXICO, D. F.

Memorandum of Conversation *Nelson*

DATE: July 13, 1966

SUBJECT: Further on Oswald and Kennedy Assassination

REFERENCE: Memorandum this Subject of December 25, 1965

PARTICIPANTS: Elena Garro de Paz, Mexican writer  
Charles Wm. Thomas, Political Officer

COPIES TO: AMB, DCM, P, P/R, L, CBD, CR/F (2)

*x Reg to: Lee Harvey  
OSWALD (P-8593)*

**CARDED**

1. Sna. Paz described some developments which may have some bearing on her claim that she saw Lee Harvey Oswald at a party at the home of her cousin, Rubén Durán, when Oswald was in Mexico prior to the Kennedy assassination.

2. She stated that her writer friend, Carlos Solorzano, is quite well acquainted with Cuban Ambassador Joaquín Hernández Armas. She said Solorzano was apparently not particularly leftist but that his brother, Alfonso, was a communist. Ambassador Hernández had told Solorzano that he would very much like to meet Sna. Paz. Solorzano accordingly arranged a party at his own home on June 30, 1966, and invited both of them. Also present were Tito Monteroso and his wife; Elvira Vargas, the leftist journalist with Novedades who is a close personal friend of President Díaz Ordaz; Emmanuel Carballo, the pro-Castro writer; Joaquín Díaz Canedo, head of the publishing firm called Editorial Mortiz; and Juan Soriano, the painter. She said Soriano was probably invited to make her feel at ease, since he is a friend of hers and was the only anti-communist there besides herself.

3. During the evening, Ambassador Hernández, whom she described as intelligent and cultured, concentrated his attention on her and did his best to flatter her by lauding her literary productions. In addition, he expressed great interest in her friend, Carlos Madrazo. He issued a personal invitation to her to attend the annual literary festival of the Casa de las Americas in Havana. She explained to him that she was not a Fidelista and that she wouldn't go to Havana unless Juan Soriano went with her. Hernández then invited Soriano to attend as well, but the latter roundly denounced the Castro regime over the objections of the others present, who urged them both to attend the festival.

4. Later, her friend, Victor Rico Galán, the pro-Castro journalist, who, she says, personally dislikes Ambassador Hernández, warned her not to go to Cuba alone.

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GROUP 3 - Downgraded at 12-year intervals,  
not automatically declassified.

MEX-46

*P-8593*

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5. On July 4, a driver from the Cuban Embassy delivered to her home on Calle Alencastre in Lomas Virreyes an envelope containing two letters and some printed matter from the Casa de las Americas in Havana. The first letter, written last October, gave her address as Vermont 38, and the second letter, written in April, gave her address as Vermont 39. The envelope for the first letter, with the above address, was marked for return to the sender, which was the Cuban Embassy here. The second envelope, which contained the whole package, had no address as it was hand-carried to her home (see attachments).

6. Sna. Paz stated that the only possible reason the letters were addressed to her at Calle Vermont was because she spent several days at the Hotel Vermont immediately after the Kennedy assassination (see referenced memcon). The correct address of the hotel, however, is Vermont 29. She concluded the Cuban Government carried that street and number, with a minor error, as her regular address.

7. Since Manuel Calvillo had taken her to the hotel ostensibly to protect her from the communists, this raised the question of how the Cubans obtained that address. She stated that as far as she was aware, the only people who knew she had been at the Hotel Vermont were Manuel Calvillo and two close friends of his, Ernesto de la Peña and Margarita Michelena. Two other friends of these three who might have learned of it are Eunice Odio and June Cobb. She said she had always been very suspicious of all three of those people because they had gone out of their way to cultivate her when she returned from Europe in 1963 and had made such a point of being outspoken professional anti-communists. She remembered that many years ago Margarita Michelena was a communist. She now wondered whether Calvillo and perhaps the other two as well were Cuban agents. She stated again that Calvillo was a close personal friend of Noe Palomares and Gustavo Diaz Ordaz, and that guards, presumably from Gobernacion, had been placed outside her home when she had returned from the Hotel Vermont. In fact, since Calvillo's recent dismissal from his position at the Secretariat of Education (for leaking information to the press about the Fondo de Cultura Economica), he had shown her two personal telegrams from President Diaz Ordaz assuring him that another job would be found for him in the near future. She added that she had told Calvillo that she had gone to the US Embassy at one point to tell what she knew about her alleged encounter with Oswald. To add to her suspicions, she remembered that what appeared to be a gunman who often accompanied Calvillo and Palomares was a Spanish refugee named (fnu) Valencia. She said Valencia's first wife was a Russian communist he had married during the Spanish Civil War. She had subsequently taken their children and returned to the Soviet Union.

8. She thought it possible that the Cuban Embassy had now deliberately given her the letters from the Casa de las Americas with the Vermont Street address in order to frighten her. She was already concerned about what appeared to be three gunshots that had been fired through her upstairs

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rear bedroom window while she was out of the house about three weeks ago. She said that with all the leftists in town accusing her of being an agent of the FBI and the government irritated with her because of her support for Carlos Madrazo, she did not feel entirely safe living alone with her daughter. She said her brother was now sleeping at the house to ease their anxiety.

9. Finally, Sra. Paz stated that she had recently encountered her cousin, Lydia Durán, and that the latter had been very friendly and wanted to meet her again. She said Lydia was very poor and had a small job with Difusion Cultural at the Anthropological Museum.

*Silva*

**CARDED**

Attachments:  
As stated (to P/R, L, and CBD only)

P:CWThomas:hag

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# CASA DE LAS AMERICAS

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g y tercera, vedado, habana, cuba

LA HABANA, 7 DE ABRIL DE 1956

55-159

CRA. ELENA GARRO  
VERMONT 35  
MEXICO 17, D. F.

ESTIMADA AMIGA:


ENTRE LOS PROYECTOS QUE CONTEMPLA LA CASA DE LAS AMERICAS, PARA EL VI FESTIVAL DE TEATRO LATINOAMERICANO 1956, FIGURA LA REALIZACIÓN DE EXPOSICIONES EN LOS VESTÍBULOS DE LAS SALAS, QUE OFREZCAN AL PÚBLICO CUBANO UNA VISIÓN PANORÁMICA DE LA ACTIVIDAD TEATRAL EN AMÉRICA LATINA.

PENSAMOS QUE EL MATERIAL DE DICHAS EXPOSICIONES PODRÍA CONSISTIR EN AFICHES, ILUSTRACIONES, FOTOGRAFÍAS DE PUESTAS EN ESCENA Y DE FIGURAS EMINENTES DE LA HISTORIA TEATRAL DE NUESTROS PAÍSES, BOSETOS DE ESCENOGRAFÍA, DISEÑOS DE CARACTERIZACIONES Y VESTUARIO, MAQUETAS -AUNQUE ESTOS MÁS APLICADOS- DE ESCENARIOS Y TODO LO OTRO QUE FUERA INTERESANTE Y DE POSIBLE ENVÍO A LA CASA DE LAS AMERICAS.

AL INFORMARLE LO ANTERIOR, ME PERMITO, EN NOMBRE DE LA DIRECCIÓN DE LA CASA DE LAS AMERICAS, SOLICITAR DE USTED SU AMISTOSA Y EFICIENTE COLABORACIÓN, EN CUANTO A OBTENER ALGUNOS DE TODOS LOS MATERIALES A QUE ME REFERIRÉ ANTERIOR, ASÍ COMO EL ENVÍO A ESTA CASA DE LAS AMERICAS. EL ENVÍO PUEDE HACERSE A TRAVÉS DE ENCOMENDA DE CUBA, FRANCISCO MÁRQUEZ 160 ESQ. A CALZADA TACURAY, CIUDAD DE MÉXICO, Y NOS LUSTARÍA CONTAR CON ÉL A MÁS TARDAR EL 30 DE AGOSTO.

NO IGNORAMOS EL ESFUERZO QUE ESTA SOLICITUD VA A SIGNIFICAR PARA USTED, PERO TAMBIÉN IGNORAMOS LA BUENA DISPOSICIÓN CON QUE NOS HA BRINDADO SU COLABORACIÓN EN ANTERIORES OPORTUNIDADES. POR ELLO, SEGUNDO DE TENERLA TAMBIÉN AHORA, ME PERMITO EXPRESARLE NUESTROS ANTICIPADOS AGRADECIMIENTOS.

CON UN BUEN PE, RECIBA MI MÁS CORDIAL SALUDO.

  
R. P. LICH  
SUB-DIRECTOR

MO/20

P/R  
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# CASA DE LAS AMERICAS

g y tercera, vedado, habana, cuba

LA HABANA, 14 DE OCTUBRE DE 1965  
"AÑO DE LA AGRICULTURA"

RES SD - II

ELENA GARRO  
VFO-MOT 38,  
MEXICO 16, D.F.

DISTINGUIDA AMIGA

CON ESPECIAL SATISFACCIÓN ME DIRIJO A USTED PARA INFORMARLE, EN NOMBRE DE LA CASA DE LAS AMÉRICAS, QUE SU OBRA UN HOGAR SÓLIDO, FUE SELECCIONADA POR NUESTRA INSTITUCIÓN PARA SER LLEVADA A ESCENA COMO PARTE DEL FESTIVAL DE TEATRO LATINO-AMERICANO 1965. LA REPRESENTACIÓN DE LA OBRA ESTARÁ A CARGO DEL GRUPO "TEATRO LIBRE DE LA HABANA", BAJO LA DIRECCIÓN DE HUMBERTO ARENAL. PARA QUE USTED PUEDA TENER UN PANORAMA MÁS AMPLIO DEL FESTIVAL 1965, ME COMPLACE ACOMPAÑARLE A LA PRESENTE EL PROGRAMA DEL MISMO.

COMO POSIBLEMENTE SEA DE SU CONOCIMIENTO, LOS FESTIVALES DE TEATRO LATINOAMERICANO FUERON INICIADOS DESDE 1961, CON EL OBJETIVO DE DAR A CONOCER AL PÚBLICO DE CUBA LAS MÁS ALTAS EXPRESIONES DEL TEATRO EN AMÉRICA LATINA Y A SUS MÁS PRESTIGIOSOS AUTORES.

AL CUMPLIR ESTE GRATO ENCARGO DE LA CASA DE LAS AMÉRICAS, LE PUEDO ACEPTAR LAS EXPRESIONES DE MI ESPECIAL CONSIDERACIÓN,

MANUEL GALICH  
SUBDIRECTOR

ADUE I

MS/JLF

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EMBAJADA DE LA REPUBLICA DE CUBA  
MEXICO, D. F.

Sra. Elena Garro  
Presente.



EMBAJADA DE LA REPUBLICA DE CUBA  
MEXICO, D. F.

Sra. Elena Garro  
Vermont No. 39  
Mexico 18, D.F.